

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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Raleigh, N. C.

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RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 30, 1894

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N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES

When this cruel war is over, And the Wilson bill becomes law, The protectionist will still be in clover; Ye tariff reformers can go on working his jaw.

Congress seems to be able to do a little work occasionally, but always does what the members were sent there not to do.

Bill Arp thinks the prospects are bright for tariff for revenue and tariff for protection, too. Just as we said all along.

Failures for the week ending Jan. 27, as reported by R. J. Dun & Co., numbered 420 against 255 for the same week last year.

The Wilson tariff bill, if passed, will not cheapen manufactured articles one cent. But even if it would, not one person in a hundred has any money to buy.

We believe it was the *Central Times*, Dunn, N. C., that originated the expression, "give us tariff reform or give us the Wilson bill." We will get the Wilson bill.

Many of our readers will want to know the result of the Corbett-Mitchell fight. It was no fight, hardly. Corbett knocked Mitchell out in the third round and is still champion of the world.

Certain Northern and Southern Democrats threatened to defeat the Wilson tariff bill if the income tax clause was not knocked out. And now they are knocking out the Wilson tariff bill itself.

Some of the sorry makeshifts who clamored for "a dollar that would buy a dollar's worth of anything," have got it at last. A dollar will buy two or three dollar's worth of the products of the farm.

Mr. F. W. M. Cutcheon, Chairman of the Minnesota State Democratic Committee, has resigned. He says he can't stomach the carryings on of the Administration at Washington and will quit the party.

We have read lately of a number of suicides by persons who had the grip. Suicide is doubtless an effective cure for the grip, but we cannot conscientiously recommend it, remarks the *Wilmington Star*.

The American Axe Company, the "trust," has reduced the wages of employees three times in the past twelve months. The tariff didn't help any either way. They are just robbing their employees like they do the public.

A number of funny editors are again telling that the Alliance is dead and what killed it. A sure sign that the organization is growing, and that is the news we get from every State in the Union. The growth is slow but healthy.

Congressman Talbert, of South Carolina, is a free trader. He doesn't believe the tariff question can ever be settled unless the whole fraud is abolished and the revenue raised by a graduated income tax and by other means. Sound sense. If the tariff is wrong, it is wrong, and a slight reduction is a compromise with the devil and all his angels.

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE.

According to previous notice the National Alliance will meet in Representative Hall, Topeka, Kansas, on the 6th of February. If every State is as ably represented as North Carolina will be, the meeting will be as good as any yet held. The Memphis meeting disposed of several prominent traitors and there will be no further trouble from that crowd. There will hardly be any person there asking for "vindication," hence we anticipate a pleasant, harmonious and profitable meeting. The Executive Committee announce that the city of Topeka will entertain the delegates free of cost during their stay. Also that citizens there have already raised \$1,000 to help defray travelling expenses. This shows their liberality and enterprise, all of which will be duly appreciated. The South has had most of the national meetings and it is but fair that the great Northwest should have an opportunity to show the South and East that they are as hospitable and fraternal as their neighbors.

The Literary Societies of Wake Forest College will hold their Fifty fifth Anniversary Exercises on Friday, Feb. 16. The debaters' subject will be "Should the President and United States Senators be elected by a direct vote of the people?" We return thanks for an invitation.

ABOUT THE SIZE OF IT.

Some years ago, so the story goes, a budding statesman started out to make political speeches. The bosses told him he must be rather non-partisan at the beginning of each speech—complimentary to all and uncomplimentary to none. He was also advised to address his remarks to some one on the outskirts of the crowd, get that person's attention and then he would certainly be heard by all the audience. His speech was non-committal and non-partisan. After getting warmed up he thought it time to reassure his audience, and fixing his gaze upon the face of an old, crusty-looking fellow sitting on a stump a short distance away, he continued in about this wise: "Fellow citizens, I am no Democrat; I am no Republican; fellow citizens, I am no Protectionist." He stopped to get his breath for a final effort and, raising his voice, exclaimed: "Then what am I?" The old crank, thinking the remarks were directed to him and that an answer was expected, said: "You're a dad-blasted fool, I guess."

Congress reminds us very much of the above incident. If a member should ask such a question we would be compelled to answer, "you're dad-blasted fools." They cannot agree on anything. The Republican members are either non-partisan or Democratic and the Democratic members are Republican or Independent. Each member wants this or that little or big industry protected. Another one wants some other articles put on the free list. But they don't fail to keep up a majority for plutocracy. There are exceptions to the rule, but few and far between.

The *New York Times* says English capitalists are preparing to bid on American bonds. Why, of course. They were preparing to bid on the bonds when they helped to buy Congress and had silver demonetized. There would have been no excuse for a bond issue if that crime had not been committed.

A TRUTH-SEEKER GETS IT.

The *Wilmington Messenger* of the 24th says:

A prominent gentleman in a county near Wilmington wrote us on the 10th inst., enclosing us a cutting from THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, headed "Reform as Reform Is." Our correspondent is an old time Democrat and a member of the late Legislature. He writes to know how much of truth there is in the statement of the Raleigh paper. He says:

"I want to know the facts, but can't take THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER as authority. I know you will tell me the truth, and I hope to receive your card reply in a few days."

We have no axe to grind. We are anxious to tell the truth and to be accurate in all statements of fact. We have delayed answering that we might ascertain if possible the truth in the matter. We will give the result of our inquiry.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER stated that the Fifty Second Congress passed a bill paying \$1,200 to each member of Congress for clerk hire. This is exclusive of his regular salary. The bill passed. The House was Democratic and the Senate Republican. Such a bill did pass. A friend suggests that he thinks the clerks get \$6 a day. We do not know how this is. The members often appoint their own sons as clerks, and the amount paid in salaries may possibly vary, but of that we have no information.

The other point of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is that the present Congress voted themselves under "the urgent deficiency bill" the snug little sum of 10 cents mileage each way for the extra session—the sum thus voted amounting to \$175,000. Both houses are Democratic. The Raleigh paper says:

"They drew \$350,000 for mileage when they were only entitled to mileage for one trip each way, or \$175,000. In other words, they drew 40 cents for each mile traveled when it only cost them 12 cents, making a clear profit of 28 cents per mile."

We do not know as to the accuracy of these figures, but our information is conclusive as to the important point—a Democratic Congress did vote themselves the extra mileage, and it was a very discredit act.

The editorial which induced the "prominent gentleman" to write to the *Messenger*, appeared in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER about two weeks ago. It was written nearly a year after the law authorizing clerks was passed. Since looking up the law again, we find just one error in our statement. Clerks are allowed pay only during each session of Congress. If the session lasts the entire year they get \$1,200; if less than a year \$100 per month for the full time, be that six or ten months. For the benefit of the "prominent gentleman" who wrote to the *Messenger*, and others who may be disposed to doubt, we will reproduce the act itself. If you don't think we are giving you straight goods get a copy of the *Congressional Record* dated March 3, 1893, and look on page 2526. By reading that and following pages you will get all the facts, the discussion, and the vote.

The law itself is as follows:

"Joint resolution (H. Res. 196) authorizing members to certify monthly the amount paid by them for clerk hire, and directing the same to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House.

Resolved, etc., That on and after April 1, 1893, each member and delegate of the House of Representatives, of the United States may, on the first day of every month during sessions of Congress certify to the Clerk of the House of Representatives the amount which he has paid or agreed to pay for clerk hire necessarily employed by him in the discharge of his official and representative duties during the previous month, and the amount so certified shall be paid by the Clerk out of the contingent fund of the House on the fourth day of each month to the person or persons named in each of said certificates so filed: *Provided*, That the amount so certified and paid for clerical services rendered to each member and delegate shall not exceed \$100 for any month during the session: *And provided further*, That the provisions of this resolution shall not apply to members who are chairmen of committees entitled under the rules to clerk."

The vote by which the above was passed stood, yeas 132, nays 57, not voting 140. The vote was taken after midnight, after quite a number of Congressmen had left the hall. That probably accounts for the high vote. The North Carolina members voted as follows: Yeas, Bunn, Grady, Williams, Nays, Henderson, Branch. Not voting, Alexander, Cheatham, Cowles, Crawford.

The "prominent gentleman" referred to did exactly right in going to the *Messenger*. If you see anything in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER that you don't believe, investigate the matter. This applies to all our readers. If you don't believe a thing is correct, find out about it and call us to account. If the "prominent gentleman" had only taken a second thought he would have known that we could not afford to publish a fabrication. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER goes to a number of Congressmen in Washington. If we should misrepresent a matter of that kind they would correct it. The paper goes to hundreds of editors and other well-informed people who would give half their lives to find a gross misstatement in our columns. Remember we generally can refer you to the book, chapter and verse in such matters. If the gentleman who wrote to the *Messenger* will send us his name and address we will mail him a copy of our paper of March 28, 1893, containing the clerk hire business, which ought to be proof to him that the party "organs" he reads have been suppressing the truth in this as well as other matters, for they can't say that they didn't know it.

MORTGAGES IN UTAH.

Utah is very near outside the limits of civilization. The farmers there don't raise any cotton and they don't buy supplies. However, the average much married citizen has not escaped the mortgage planter. The goldbug has been there; he came, saw and conquered.

There are 38,816 families in the State, about 31 per cent. rent their homes and farms while 69 per cent. own them. Mortgages aggregating \$1,974,943 in number the homes and farms of the State. South Carolina is a cotton State. Her people raise cotton and play thunder. Her population is five times as large as that of Utah, where no cotton is raised, and yet Utah is mortgaged to the extent of \$632,415 more than South Carolina. The per capita debt of South Carolina is about \$4.70, while the per capita debt in Utah is nearly \$24, or about six times as much. Another bit of additional proof that cotton-raising hasn't ruined the South, and that something else is the trouble. See?

BOTH STATEMENTS ARE INCORRECT.

The miserable makeshift of a Congressman or editor who proclaims to the world that the McKinley bill keeps up wages or that the Wilson bill will reduce the price of manufactured goods, are both guilty of telling what is not true. The McKinley bill places a higher duty upon most articles than any similar measure, yet prices of goods have gone down since the bill became a law. Wages have gone down more in proportion than the price of goods, and thousands of manufacturing concerns are closed or working on short time. That alone is proof that the McKinley bill cannot make the manufacturer nor his workman rich without a readjustment of our financial system. Wages have been cut down about 25 per cent. in the past twelve months. If the wage-earner don't accept the cut his or her place is at once filled from the ranks of the millions of unemployed.

On the other hand the Wilson bill will not help any, and owing to the same reasons. If the tariff was abolished goods could not be sold much cheaper. But the Wilson bill does not abolish it. It only reduces the duty on articles bearing a high prohibitory tariff and still leaves the duty prohibitory. It is simply a cowardly makeshift, an effort to deceive the people and keep alive an issue that is well-nigh burned out and obscured by real, important issues.

Congress appears to be very much like a small leaf that falls from a tree on the banks of a great river. It floats on and on. Congress is floating on the bosom of a great stream of discontent and will continue floating until, like the leaf, it will be swallowed up in the mighty ocean, or is smothered under a cloud of ballots.

ANOTHER BIG CRASH.

It has been said, and it is true, that this is a rich man's panic. Most of the poor men failed long ago and others are too poor to make an assignment. True, some of the rich are reaping a harvest out of the misfortunes of both poor and rich, but it is only a question of time, and not long off, when the very rich will find their ill-gotten gains an elephant on their hands. We notice that some of the supposed rich men who are failing were known to be enemies of the reform movement. They ridiculed and hissed the very name. While we are sorry for them, we hope they will learn a lesson and act like sensible men hereafter.

A few days ago certain creditors asked that a receiver be appointed for the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad. This was done. The liabilities are placed at about \$650,000. This has precipitated other assignments. Capt. J. D. Williams, President of the Fayetteville Bank, and Mr. E. J. Lilly, assistant cashier, were the first to succumb. Since that the Julius A. Gray estate and Dr. D. W. C. Benbow, Greensboro, have assigned. Capt. J. E. Gilmer, Winston; Col. Jno. T. Morehead, Leaksville; Dr. W. A. Lash, President of the C. F. & Y. V. Railroad; W. A. Moore & Bro., Mt. Airy, and other wealthy men have assigned. They were all interested in the railroad and in the North State Improvement Company at Greensboro.

"The Book of the Fair," published and sold by the Bancroft Company, Auditorium Building, Chicago, Ill., is a fine work of the kind. It appears in 25 parts, each sold at \$1. The illustrations and descriptive matter are both superb. Those who did not visit the World's Fair can get a good idea of it from this work.

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE CHANCE.

The Washington correspondent of the *Statesville Landmark* says: "By the time the Wilson tariff bill gets through the Senate its progenitor will not be able to recognize it. At the present writing it is overlaid with amendments. Various interests have their representatives here to watch these amendments and add others. The sugar bounty will be up for consideration to-day. Louisiana has been represented here a week by lawyers and sugar planters. Tobacco and whiskey interests are well represented and will have plenty of money to spend."

Now let's see. "Various interests" have their representatives here to watch these amendments and add others. Yes, that is what he says. Now, before going further, we want to settle an important question. Some people say that Cleveland is "his own Congress." Others say Congressmen are running Congress. But this correspondent, and he is a very intelligent one, leaves the impression that the "various interests" are doing the work. They are watching the amendments and "adding others." It would be a curious spectacle to see a murderer or burglar in a court house trying his own case, acting as judge, solicitor, jury and witness. He would be sure to come clear and throw the cost on

the county. Well, the great American Congress is permitting the manufacturers and boudlers to try their own cases. That is why the Wilson tariff bill is the greatest fraud of the age.

"The tobacco and whiskey interests are well represented and will have plenty of money to spend." That is what he says. What are they spending money for? Is it possible that our Congressmen are selling out at so much for each piece of jobbery? The Democratic correspondent of a Democratic paper says so.

The *New York Times* made a most brutal attack upon Rev. DeWitt Talmage, of Brooklyn, last week. The only specifications in the attack were that Dr. Talmage is not "aristocratic." In other words he is not a plutocrat scoundrel. The *Times* says he is popular only with the "common people." That means that he was Christ like, and this does not meet with approval in New York.

TRY ARGUMENTS ON THEM.

The *Statesville Landmark*, of the 25th, closes its leading editorial as follows: "But what is the use of arguing tariff and finance to Our Noble Order? Plenty of use. But don't try to palm off such editorials as arguments. Your editorial didn't contain a word that might be mistaken for an argument in favor of tariff or financial reform. Logical (?) editorials like the one in question have completely disgusted all sensible people in and out of the Alliance. Begging and dodging efforts to convince the people that they are getting tariff reform when the figures given out show that they are not getting it are useless. The same kind of work to convince the people that they are getting free coinage of silver when the bill itself calls for \$2,000,000 per month, is time lost. If you can make a man believe that 50 is more than 75 you might convince him on the tariff question. If you can get anyone to believe that one square meal a week will satisfy hunger as well as three each day, then you may be able to argue to his satisfaction that the Voorhees bill is worth something; that it is not a cowardly makeshift."

The *Landmark* is vexed because the members of the Iredell County Alliance refuse to take "half a loaf." Didn't the *Landmark* promise them a whole loaf last campaign? Didn't every stump speaker favoring the election of Cleveland and his Congress promise a whole loaf? If Cleveland and his Congress will do all the *Landmark* has promised its readers, we will come out and urge the members of the Alliance to quit kicking. "Half a loaf!" Great Caesar! It isn't a good sized crumb.

Congressman W. A. McKeighan, of Nebraska, Populist, is a free trader. During his speech on the tariff question the other day he told several great big gobs of truth. He asked this question: "Why do the fat, wealthy manufacturers haunt the lobbies at Washington simply, as they say, to get protection so they can pay their hands high wages. If that is their object, why do they reduce wages at every possible opportunity?"

EDITORIAL OPINIONS.

Protection, favoritism, discrimination, fraud—these are the four legs of the Wilson Whatisit.—*New York Sun*.

The patronage editors and the cuckoo statesmen will have to adopt the new slogan. It is "All Hail, John Sherman!"—*Atlanta Constitution*.

Please don't think that John Sherman has become a Democrat simply because he occasionally leads a big Democrat by the nose.—*Atlanta Constitution*.

Our American Hornblower had the same effect on the administration as those others had on the walls of Jericho some centuries ago. Both fell down.—*Chicago Times*.

As to Hill and Murphy defeating Hornblower's nomination, that's their business. But delaying the Supreme Court's work, that's the country's business.—*Philadelphia Times*.

The Ohio lynching was participated in by the best citizens. We gladly make this announcement. There was an impression that the lynchers were all law-breakers.—*Washington Post*.

Lillian Russell's marriage is advertised to take place to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. There will be no postponement on account of weather or former matrimonial complications.—*Washington Post*.

A man who talks so often on rules and so infrequently acts, according to them, as does Mr. Thomas Reed, necessarily contradicts himself, and out of his own mouth is condemned.—*Augsburg Chronicle*.

A bill has been introduced in the Virginia Legislature to tax dogs. But the dog isn't troubled a bit about it. In nearly all bouts between legislatures and dogs the dogs came out on top.—*Wilmington Star*.

DOINGS AT WASHINGTON.

THE ALLIANCE CAUSES THE POLITICIANS MUCH UNEASINESS.

Cigarette and Whiskey Tax—The Income Tax—Free Coal and Free Sugar, and What Good Will It Do?—Carlsruhe and His Bonds—The Tariff William and the Revenue William to Combine.

[Special Cor. PROGRESSIVE FARMER.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27. It is not very well known throughout the country, but is a fact that the Alliance in this city watch the Alliance very closely. The Associated Press dispatches about "leptitis in the Order" and the regulation newspaper cause it went into politics. It allay the fears of the shrewd politician. It is admitted on all sides that the campaign of '92 was a test of the loyalty of the membership. The capitalists and politicians intended that it should be. They drew the lines for the organization and loudly proclaimed the story that true Alliancemen would all vote the People's party ticket. They knew that the average American farmer would not be driven. They succeeded in pushing many fairly good members out in that way. The traitors who held themselves for a price were bought. While the ruse was a success for the time being, the politicians now see that something new must be started. Old Alliance members are coming back in every State. The organization was demoralized but not routed. The campaign of education is going on constantly. Preconcerted efforts were made to force every Alliance paper to the wall. In some cases they succeeded, but somehow other papers came to the front one after another, and now the Alliance has a stronger press than ever before. Old party organs are going up, but the reform press is pulling through hard times, boycotts and everything else. The membership of the Alliance, the paid up membership, is nothing like as large as it was, but the seed that were sown in good ground are springing up and flourishing. If the entire active membership, the press and every speaker should die to day the Alliance would still live and have an existence in the hearts of thousands who now see that the Alliance was right all the time. And that is what disturbs plutocracy.

The Ways and Means Committee have decided that the new cigarette tax shall be \$1 per 1,000. The old rate was 50 cents. The tax on whiskey will be raised from 90 cents to \$1 per gallon. Probably future amendments will change the rate.

The income tax is still being talked. The bill is another cowardly makeshift. A large number of people favor such a law, but they want a graduated income tax. The present bill proposes a tax of 2 per cent. on all incomes above \$4,000 per annum. The tax should begin as low as \$2,000 and increase as the income grows larger.

The administration is trying to make itself popular by putting coal and sugar on the free list. The entire output of coal is under the control of one or more gigantic trusts. If necessary they can add others. Then what good will free coal do the people? The trusts can put the price down or up at their pleasure. The same is true of sugar. Louisiana produces a large quantity of cane sugar. Most of the beet sugar is made in the West. The sugar trust extends all over the world. Tariff reform without breaking up the trusts is a mere farce.

The bond issue goes merrily along. Secretary Carlisle has won the everlasting gratitude of Wall street and London. They are so well pleased that they are taking steps to get all the gold out of the treasury with which they expect to purchase bonds. When the first lot of \$50,000,000 worth are all safely stowed away Mr. Carlisle will be out of money and will have to sell more bonds. The bids for bonds now aggregate \$200,000,000 and the end is not in sight.

By a vote of 89 to 71 the House decided to combine the revenue bill, which includes the income tax, with the Wilson bill. This was done after a caucus held on Thursday. The opposition made a vigorous fight. Mr. Wilson and most of the Northwestern Democrats were numbered among the opposition.

DAVID CROCKETT.

It is only justice to Jerry Simpson to state that he does not roll his trousers up at the bottom or smoke cigarettes.—*Washington Post*.

At Henderson Friday morning the accommodation freight going north on the Seaboard Air Line, which was seven hours late, was run into while standing at a water tank by a through freight going north. Rev. Mr. Shaw, of Portsmouth, Va., and Mr. L. Bowman, of Richmond, passengers on the accommodation train, were killed. Mr. W. G. Brodie, of Warrenton, a drummer for Brodie's house, had his thigh broken. It is reported that the flagman of the front train failed to get back far enough to signal the freight in time for it to stop.